

# DESERT AIRMAN

Vol. 66 Issue 10

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

Friday, March 11, 2005



## Heritage flight conference a success

By Stephanie Ritter  
355th Wing Public Affairs

Once again, Davis-Monthan successfully hosted Air Combat Command's Heritage Flight Conference.

The 2005 HFC kicked off March 4 and ended Sunday. All six Air Combat Command single-ship demonstration teams, two F-4 pilots and 12 Heritage Flight civilian pilots trained over the weekend to receive their certification to fly together during the 2005 airshow season.

"The HFC was a huge success," said Lt. Col. Phil Fluhr, 355th Training Squadron and installation project officer for the HFC. "We were able to accomplish all of our flying goals to get pilots certified to fly heritage flights during the airshow season. And we were able to do it all without any incidences."

Colonel Fluhr attributed a significant amount of the success to those working with him on the conference.

"I had a lot of good people working on this HFC, which helped make the event an easy success," Colonel Fluhr said.

In addition to the training, more than 30 members of the D-M and local Tucson community were given incentive rides in various aircraft. The rides



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal

Lt. Gen. William Fraser, Air Combat Command vice commander, prepares for a flight in a P-51 Mustang during the Heritage Flight Conference at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

See **HFC**, Page 15

## Airmen, civilians receive recognition at OPY banquet

By Maj. Melissa Miller  
12th Air Force Public Affairs

The 12th Air Force honored the "best of the best" from throughout the command at the 2004 Outstanding Performer of the Year awards banquet and ceremony March 2.

Airmen and civilians from around the command were named winners from among 56 nominees.

"They are all winners at the wing level and serve as models to all of us,"

said Lt. Gen. Randall Mark Schmidt, 12th Air Force commander. "Their dedication to duty is a testament to the commitment and effort they put forth every day in service to our great nation."

More than 200 people attended the banquet including commanders, command chiefs and civic leaders from 12th Air Force's seven active-duty wings.

Brig. Gen. Daniel Darnell, Space Warfare Center commander, was the

guest speaker for the event and attendees were entertained by the Air Force Strolling Strings ensemble.

All of the 12th Air Force OPY nominees were treated to three days of activities in recognition of their achievements.

"The Sonoran Desert Museum tour was really interesting," said Nathan Rowland, Senior Civilian of the Year nominee from the 366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. "I'm honored to be here and

this has been a very rewarding experience."

"All the nominees have done outstanding things and they are all heroes," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Lane, 12th Air Force command chief. "It was very difficult to pick the winners from among these many talented people."

The 2004 12th Air Force OPY winners are:

See **OPY**, Page 4

### The Davis-Monthan Air Force Base timeline of sorties as of Monday

Squadron	Required	Flown	Annual	Squadron	Required	Flown	Annual
41st ECS	865.0	438.5	2,449.2	162nd OSB	840.1	892.5	2,135.0
43rd ECS	969.5	970.9	2,350.8	354th FS	4,872.5	4,792.1	11,296.5
55th RQS	1,170.4	1,096.2	2,880.0	357th FS	3,718.0	3,498.1	8,966.0
79th RQS	663.1	722.5	1,451.0	358th FS	3,668.0	3,723.4	8,948.0

### Pilot training as of Monday

357th FS	358th FS
04 DBD -29 days	05 ABD -8.2 days
05 AID -41 days	05 BID -22 days
05 ARQ -15.5 days	05 BRQ -14 days
05 BID -31 days	05 CID +4.5 days

Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Kinsey

Maj. Gen. Mike DeCuir, (left) Air Combat Command Director of Air and Space Operations, and Col. Michael Spencer, (center) 355th Wing commander, congratulate Col. Michael Hoyes, ACC Chief of Scheduling and Aerial Events, on completion of his final flight Sunday at the closure of the 2005 Heritage Flight Conference.

Supporting each other and working together to provide the best programs and services is a goal for all D-M people. Ideas, suggestions, comments, concerns and kudos are important to make improvements. The best way to pass along a comment or to get an answer to a concern is to contact the agency chief or functional managers listed here. Still no solution? The Commander's Corner phone line is 228-4747. An e-mail can also be sent to: 355thWingCommandersCorner@dm.af.mil. Callers must leave their name, phone number and a message. They will receive a prompt reply in writing or by telephone. We will honor caller confidentiality. If a concern is of general interest to the base populace, the response may be published in the *Desert Airman*. Anonymous calls may not be published.

### Agency numbers

AAFES Agencies.....	228-3904	Inspector General.....	228-3558
Accounting and Finance.....	228-4964	Legal.....	228-0432
Chaplain.....	228-5411	Lodging.....	228-4845
Civil Engineering.....	228-3401	Military and Civilian Equal	
Clinic.....	228-2930	Opportunity Office.....	228-5509
Commissary.....	228-3116	Military Personnel.....	228-5689
Family Support.....	228-5690	Public Affairs.....	228-3204
Fitness and Sports Center.....	228-0022	Security Forces.....	228-6178
Haefner Fitness Center.....	228-3714	Services.....	228-5596
Housing Office.....	228-3687	Transportation.....	228-3584

### Thank you

Once again, the Desert Lightning Team hit a home run!

Last week was one of our busiest weeks of the year. The Desert Lightning Team continued to lead the way during an array of activities and competing challenges. Some of these included:

- ◆ The 12th Air Force Outstanding Performer of the Year awards
  - ◆ The 12th Air Force Commander/Command Chief Conference, which included eight wing commanders and command chiefs, their spouses, civic leaders and the Guard and Reserve gained units.
  - ◆ Lt. Gen. William Fraser, Air Combat Command vice commander
  - ◆ Maj. Gen. Mike DeCuir, ACC director of Air and Space Operations
  - ◆ Brig. Gen. Russell Kilpatrick, ACC command surgeon
  - ◆ Brig. Gen. Patrick Burns, ACC civil engineer
  - ◆ Lt. Gen. John Bradley, Air Force Reserve commander
  - ◆ Lt. Gen. Daniel James, National Guard commander
  - ◆ Retired Brig. Gen. Robin Olds, the legendary combat warrior
  - ◆ The ACC's Heritage Flight Conference, which included six demo teams and their wing leadership plus P-47, P-51s, P-38 and F-86 vintage aircraft ... all getting ready for the 2005 airshow season
  - ◆ The Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Center's Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team inspection
  - ◆ The ACC Airman Leadership School Inspection
- Airmen and leaders from across the installation performed magnificently. Security forces and medical personnel volunteered at the Heritage Flight

Conference; vehicle operators were on the go keeping pace with the 12th Air Force activities; communication troops ensured the right sound equipment was available downtown and on base; services staff ensured the gym, rooms and meals were first-rate; base operations and weather kept up with changes; fuels shop kept the vintage aircraft flying; the sheet metal shop fixed a broken pitot tube on a 40-year-old F-4 and our audio visual personnel recorded all of the events. We received accolades from our visitors and excellent ratings from our inspectors. Our ALS team watered the inspector's eyes. The list goes on and on — I do not believe there was a single squadron on this installation that did not contribute.

I cannot tell you how proud I am to be the commander of this wing and part of such an efficient and dedicated team of professionals — you are absolutely the best I have ever seen. Our Air Force senior leaders feel the same way I do. All of them raved about the professionalism and dedication of our Airmen and the civilian workforce. They were impressed with the outstanding stewardship we have shown with taking care of our Airmen, facilities and installation.

Finally, just when we thought we could take a breather; we received a technical compliance technical order message grounding the A-10 fleet. And you cranked it up again ... as the maintenance and support groups completed the required corrective actions. We met the flying schedule on Monday without the loss of a single sortie.

Your maturity, initiative, skill and leadership made all this happen. It was truly an exceptional performance done by our world-class Airmen. I am proud to serve with you. Thanks for all you continue to do!

## Team D-M Mission Spotlight

The mission of the 355th Medical Group is to support medically ready forces (Air and Space Expeditionary Forces) be prepared to win wars and provide ready expeditionary medical forces. This done by ensuring combat medical currency through training, delivery of the in-garrison healthcare benefit, humanitarian civic assistance and disaster response.

Part of the 355th MDG is the 355th Medical Support Squadron, which provides logistical and support activities for four operational squadrons with more than 400 members. The 355th MDSS also manages medical group financial and manpower programs, facilities logistics, administrative support, information systems, managed care, ancillary services, staff education and training and readiness.

Senior Airman Wilford Vince Cruz, 355th Medical Support Squadron, tests a blood specimen on a laboratory hematology analyzer. The laboratory collects and processes an average of 120,000 tests a year.



Photo by Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy

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## DESERT AIRMAN

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Photo by Master Sgt. Brian Blangsted

Maj. Gen. Mike DeCuir, Air Combat Command director of Air and Space operations, prepares to board a C-130 during a visit at Davis-Monthan for the Heritage Flight Conference.

## Paying D-M a visit

Davis-Monthan recently welcomed Maj. Gen. Mike DeCuir, director of Air and Space Operations for Air Combat Command, to the base. While here, General DeCuir was able to witness the 2005 Heritage Flight Conference March 4 through Sunday.

Maj. Gen. Mike DeCuir, director of Air and Space operations for Air Combat Command, prepares for his flight on the HH-60 PaveHawk at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce

## Air Force announces senior master sergeant selectees

Congratulations to the following Davis-Monthan master sergeants who were selected for promotion to senior master sergeant:

### 12th Air Force

John Brindley  
Kenneth Davis  
Kenneth Gammons  
Gilberto Gutierrez  
William Haught

Vance Kondon  
John Labadan  
Miriam Riegler  
Rodney Welden

### 355th Wing

Franklin Buck  
Kathleen Collier  
Christopher Gaecke  
Charle Liljestrand  
Kenneth Meierhofer  
Derrick Phillips  
Rudy Pino

Andrew Reis  
Jeff Sherrill

### 55th Wing

Leo Chang  
Gary Rosebeck  
Charles Vignettes

### 563rd RQS

Anthony Bickerdike  
Lawrence Hawks  
Neil McCready  
Rick Ramos



# 120

Airmen were saved from the consequences of driving under the influence by the Airmen Against Drunk Driving Program since Dec. 31.

Call AADD at  
**850-2233**

Fridays and Saturdays from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. and  
Sundays from 4 p.m. to midnight for a ride.



## Emergency Numbers

Ambulance.....911  
Casualty Assistance.....228-3686  
(After duty hours).....228-3121  
Duty Chaplain.....228-5411  
(After duty hours).....228-3517  
Fire Reporting.....911  
Public Affairs.....228-3204  
(After duty hours).....228-7400  
Fraud Waste and Abuse.....228-3177

Base Operations.....228-4315  
Mortuary Officer.....228-5964 or 4414  
(After duty hours).....228-3121  
Command Post.....228-7400  
355th Security Forces Crime Stop....228-4444  
Safety.....228-5558  
(After duty hours).....909-0316  
Base locator.....228-3347  
TIPS Line.....228-TIPS (8477)

## News Notes

### E'Call for SNCOs today

An enlisted call is scheduled for all senior NCOs today at the Base Theater. Wing SNCOs are required to attend the 7:30 a.m. or the 3:30 p.m. briefing.

### MDG closures

The 355th Medical Group will close today at noon to participate in the Wing Major Accident Response Exercise. Pharmacy services will be available.

The MDG also has a mandatory training day Thursday and will close at noon. For assistance during this closure time, call the after hours number, at 570-7080.

### Town hall meeting

The next Davis-Monthan community town hall meeting will be Wednesday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Some of the topics to be discussed will be housing renovation and privatizing, updated yard citation policy and safety. Associated base agencies will be on hand to answer questions and address concerns. For more information, call Carol Mares at 228-6609.

### Swan gate closure

Swan Road Gate is closed for construction. The gate is scheduled to reopen late March.

### Munitions inventory

The 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Munition Flight will be conducting the semiannual 100 percent base stock inventory through March 31. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Stephen Bailey or Staff Sgt. Patrick Blevins at 228-8632.

### Commander's access channel

The commander's access channel will move from Cox channel 74 to 22 on March 28.

### DFAS Web site to move

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service public Web site is changing their old Web site, [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil), to [www.dod.mil/dfas](http://www.dod.mil/dfas). The change will occur March 31.

### Correction

In the March 4 edition of the *Desert Airman*, Chief Master Sgt. Scott Westcott, 355th Maintenance Operations Squadron, was listed as 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron in the *Setting goals key element for success* editorial.

### Terrorism history

March 16, 1988, Iraqi forces used chemical weapons against the civilian population in the Kurdish village of Halabja.



An HH-60 Pavement Hawk with Airmen from the 55th Rescue Squadron sits on the taxiway at a deployed location awaiting to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Airmen from the 55th RQS were deployed over the holiday season.

Courtesy photos



1st Lt. Evan Gardner from the 55th Rescue Squadron walks to a nearby helicopter. Lieutenant Gardner was one of many Airmen who recently returned home from a deployed location in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

## So others may live ...

### 55th RQS deploys, provides support to military, civilians

By Senior Airman  
Brandy Dupper-Macy  
355th Wing Public Affairs

When Airmen deploy, some gain an intense understanding of what service before self means.

Some may miss family, friends, the birth of a child, television, home cooked meals, various holidays and celebrations.

Recently half of the 55th Rescue Squadron returned from a three-month deployment, which kept them away over the holiday season to support Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Christmas was difficult because it

was my first (holiday) away from my family, and although we look after each other it was the one time we really could (not) help out everyone else," said 1st Lt. Evan Gardner, 55th RQS HH-60G co-pilot.

Tech. Sgt. Jason House, 55th RQS HH-60G aerial gunner, a husband and father of four, can relate to Lieutenant Gardner.

"The hardest part was spending another Christmas, birthday and New Years away from home and missing, my children's school play and my daughter's first time riding a bike," Sergeant House said.

Through the sacrifices one makes

during their enlistment, they have the potential of touching lives.

"Some people had sent over soccer balls for the Iraqis," Lieutenant Gardner said. "On a couple of days we were able to deliver them to some small villages."

Building community relations with the local population by delivering donated soccer balls in the local area and seeing the smiles on the children's faces made it one of my favorite moments, Sergeant House said.

Though the memories of the children's smiles remain strong in their minds, there was another reason they were at a deployed location.

"We provide alert response capability for time critical combat search and rescue missions," Lieutenant Gardner said.

The Airmen from the 55th RQS proved they were ready to fight when called because "we are Air Force Special Operations Command and we have always been warriors and mission hackers," Sergeant House said. "Since we are always on alert, everything we do is real world."

Through and through, Lieutenant Gardner said the best part of the deployment was, "getting to perform the mission we train so hard for back (at D-M)."

## OPY

Continued from Page 1

### Airman of the year:

Senior Airman Teal Bulthuis, 7th Bomb Wing, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas

### NCO of the year:

Staff Sgt. Earl Covell, Jr., 12th Air Force

### Senior NCO of the year:

Master Sgt. Robert Sisk, 7th Bomb Wing

### First Sergeant of the year:

Senior Master Sgt. Stephen Canter, 355th Wing

### Company Grade

### Officer of the year:

Capt. Brandon Miller, 7th Bomb Wing

### Junior Civilian Employee of the year:

Maria Steffens, 366th Fighter Wing

### Senior Civilian Employee of the year:

Pat O'Leary, 27th Fighter Wing, Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.



Courtesy photo

(Left to right) Lt. Gen. Mark Schmidt, 12th Air Force commander; Junior Civilian of the Year, Maria Steffens, 366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho; Senior NCO of the Year, Master Sgt. Robert Sisk, 7th Bomb Wing, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas; NCO of the Year, Staff Sgt. Earl Covell Jr., 12th Air Force Headquarters; Airman of the Year, Senior Airman Teal Bulthuis, 7th Bomb Wing; Senior Civilian of the Year Pat O'Leary, 27th Fighter Wing, Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.; and Chief Master Sgt. Michael Lane, 12th Air Force command chief, pause for a moment during the 12th Air Force 2004 Outstanding Performer of the Year awards banquet.

*Off we go into the wild blue yonder ...*

## Airmen can reenlist with Thunderbirds



Courtesy photo

**By Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy**  
355th Wing Public Affairs

As the end of one's enlistment near, the question echoes, constantly weighing the options and benefits the military can offer to themselves and their family members. After the decision is made to stay in, it is a matter of when and where the ceremony should take place.

During the 2005 Aerospace and Arizona Days April 2 and 3, the Thunderbird Demonstration Team offers a unique opportunity for the Davis-Monthan enlisted force.

"Reenlisting with the Thunderbirds is an opportunity that not many people are afforded," said Staff Sgt. Kati Garcia, Air Force Thunderbirds chief of media relations. "We represent the U.S. and its armed forces to people around the world and project international goodwill. Because you can only reenlist every four to six years and you only have a

*The Thunderbird Demonstration Team offers a reenlistment ceremony during airshows that have a military presence. April 2 and 3 is the Aerospace and Arizona Days at Davis-Monthan, which will include a reenlistment ceremony prior to the airshow.*

small window in which you can reenlist, it is very rare that your time to reenlist will match up with a date that the Air Force Thunderbirds are performing at your base."

The ceremony itself takes place in front of the Thunderbird aircraft with the Thunderbird demonstration pilots in attendance and takes about five minutes, Sergeant Garcia said.

"Reenlisting in the Air Force is a big step in anyone's career," Sergeant Garcia said. "Each time you reenlist, it is nice to find a way to make it as special as possible and enlisting with the Thunderbirds is a great way to make it memorable. There is nothing more patriotic than reenlisting with six red, white and blue F-16s behind you, Thunderbird officers around you and then having your ceremony followed up by an airshow."

In addition to the reenlistment ceremony, six Thunderbirds will perform an aerial demonstration during the airshow.

For Airmen interested in reenlisting during the airshow, contact the reenlistments office at 228-1989.

For more information on the Thunderbirds, go to the Web site <http://www.airforce.com/thunderbirds>.



# CRIME & Punishment

The following are some of the incidents the 355th Security Forces Squadron handled from Feb. 18 through March 3.

## **Patrol response: child neglect**

An airman first class and dependent spouse were cited for child neglect. A dependent spouse of a senior airman reported a small child, who she did not know, was in her backyard. Further investigation revealed the child had left his home without the parent's knowledge. A check of the child's residence revealed the Tucson Police Department and Child Protective Services involvement would be required.

## **Patrol response: civil arrests**

Military Police at Fort Huachuca notified the security forces control center that a senior airman was arrested for operating a vehicle with a fictitious license plate and suspected involvement in a weapons discharge within Mexico.

The TPD notified the SFCC that a staff sergeant from D-M was arrested and being held within Pima County Jail for domestic violence and criminal damage.

## **Patrol response: disturbed individual**

An individual entered the visitor control center and reported they had classified information for the wing commander. The individual stated he

worked for the Central Intelligence Agency and needed to be transported immediately to Washington D.C. The TPD was contacted. The TPD detained the individual and removed him from the installation.

## **Airman driving while under the influence**

The TPD notified the SFCC that an airman first class was arrested for driving under the influence. The TPD conducted a breath analysis on the Airman with a result of .178 blood alcohol content.

## **Civilian driving while under the influence**

A civilian approached the Craycroft Road Gate and requested to pay the toll for entry. The officer's noticed the individual had slurred speech, blood-shot eyes and a strong odor of alcohol. The TPD was contacted. The TPD and security forces conducted a field sobriety test on the individual, which he failed. The subject was arrested for DUI and transported to Pima County Jail.

Craycroft Road Gate Installation Officers notified the SFCC they had stopped a civilian at the gate for suspected DUI. A field sobriety test was conducted and a breath analysis was administered with a result of .113 BAC. The subject was arrested and transported to Pima County Jail.

The Craycroft Road Gate Installation Officers notified the SFCC of a major vehicle accident

within the parking lot of the visitors' center. Investigation revealed the civilian entered the VC parking lot at a high rate of speed, failed to control his vehicle, struck the parking lot curb and skidded to a halt within the desert area. The security forces personnel detected a strong alcohol odor emitting from the individual. The TPD was contacted and conducted a breath analysis on the subject with a result of a .323 BAC. The TPD arrested the subject.

## **Theft of private property: unsecured**

A dependent spouse of a retired U.S. Coast Guard member reported their generator was stolen from their recreational vehicle while the vehicle was parked at the overflow FAMCAMP lot.

## **Patrol response: weapons violation**

During a random vehicle inspection an airman was detained for having an unauthorized weapon and ammunition within his vehicle.

## **Security forces tip of the week**

Drivers on Davis-Monthan Air Force Base are reminded that obeying posted speed limits will help maintain the safety and well being of the entire Desert Lightning community. Depending on the speed and location of the offense, those who violate the limits could lose their installation driving privileges for up to one year.



## Step by step

## CONS Helps others complete mission at hand

By Capt DeJon Redd

376th Air Expeditionary Wing  
Public Affairs

From food to fuel to hardened facilities, Manas can not meet the mission without the 376th Air Expeditionary Wing Contracting Squadron, but it is easy to overlook their contributions.

As Manas Air Base transitions from initial buildup to semipermanent operations, more emphasis is placed on these government-empowered buyers. Without their purchase power, the mission comes to a halt.

"All of the contracting specialists have the authorization to allocate at least \$200,000 in government funds," said Master Sgt. James Northup, deployed from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

That power stems from authority granted by Congress to these individuals who are trained and certified as contingency contracting officers.

"If it's not flown here, it's brought to you by the contracting squadron, at least indirectly," said Senior Airman Colin Fain, contracting specialist for the 376th AEW, from Beale Air Force Base, Calif.

"In general, our contracts fall into one of three different categories," said Capt. John Del Barrio, commander of the 376th CONS, from Andrews Air Force Base, Md. "They are construction, services, and commodities. Here we are construction and services intensive."

With a construction contract, for example, contracting helps the cus-



Courtesy photo

Master Sgt. Darnell Flower and Master Sgt. James Northup of 376th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron on Manas Air Base, discuss the main objective at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service construction project.

tomers explain the American building codes and standards which local construction companies might not be accustomed to, according to Master Sergeant Darnell Flowers, a Manas contracting officer also deployed from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

"The goal is to finish a contract for the lowest price while providing full customer satisfaction," said Senior Airman Ian Buschmann, contracting specialist for the 376th AEW, from Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.

"There are some unique differences between the contracts here and those

back home," Sergeant Flowers said. "Right now we have quite a few construction projects being built, but the total dollars required are significantly less than in the U.S."

"We serve as business advisors to the base," Airman Fain said. "It is important that we balance the needs of the customer with the price required by the contracted company."

"We are also empowered with a higher warrant in the deployed environment," Sergeant Northup said.

He describes a warrant as a dollar figure that sets the threshold for a

contracting officer's ability to make an acquisition. And with this increased threshold comes an increase in responsibility.

"We are the business spokesmen for the government wherever we go," Airman Buschmann said.

As a contracting officer, Airman Buschmann describes the job of awarding a contract as a pursuit for the best value for the government.

Much like someone shopping for personal needs on a budget, the objective is to get the best value for each dollar spent.

As most Airmen look forward to eating in the new dining facility or the increased inventory of the new base exchange, both currently under construction, they rarely consider the crucial oversight provided by the contracting experts during construction.

"It takes a team to complete a building project," said Maj. Tom Waldron, 376th AEW Civil Engineer. "We work hand-in-hand with the contracting Squadron to resolve any potential issues in a timely manner. We couldn't get it done without them."

The military continues to prosecute the Global War on Terror in a growing number of locations. Simultaneously, the military's organic capabilities are streamlined. These factors emphasize contracting's mission to find private organizations to maintain or improve the military's mission capability.

In the words of Staff Sgt. Nate Trulove, 376th AEW contracting specialist, from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., "nobody does their business without our business."

## DoD sets schedule to implement new civilian personnel system

The sequence for initial implementation of the Department of Defense Security Personnel System was announced by Navy Secretary Gordon England, the senior executive overseeing the new system.

This first phase of transition to the new civilian employment system will happen incrementally, with the first group of bases scheduled for July 2005.

The DoD employees slated for conversion to the new system will be included in groupings called Spirals. Spiral One will occur over an 18-month period and include about 300,000 general employees. All Air Combat Command bases fall in Spiral One. Davis-Monthan Air Force Base will transition in the second phase of that group in January 2006.

Congress authorized the new personnel system as part of the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act. The role of DoD's civilian workforce is

expanding to include more significant participation in combat support functions, to allow military personnel to focus on war fighting duties. The new system, while preserving the distinctions between the department's military and civilian workforces, is intended to more fully integrate the capabilities of the two groups by making the hiring and reassigning process more flexible.

The system will be in place fully by January 2008.

"This will give managers the flexibility they need to get the job done quickly and efficiently," said Candy Cuadra, 355th Mission Support Squadron civilian personnel officer. "These are critical times, and supervisors must be able to hire quickly the needed manpower to support the mission. These changes will simplify how we hire, assign, compensate and reward employees."

"(The NSPS) will provide the department with a modern, flexible and agile human resource sys-

tem that can be more responsive to the national security environment, while preserving employee protections and benefits," Secretary England said.

"Training and communication will be the key to a successful transition," Ms. Cuadra said. "We are committed to providing information to all our civilian employees. As with any change, we will learn a few lessons and make a few adjustments over time. By working together to identify issues, we will accomplish the mission while still providing a first-class employment system for our civilian work force."

"The 355th MSS is committed to educating all of our military and civilian members in all aspects of NSPS," said Lt. Col. Cassie Barlow, 355th MSS commander. A variety of avenues will be used to accomplish this task such as commander meetings, commander's calls and training courses."

(Information courtesy of the 509th Bomb Wing and 355th Mission Support Squadron)



# Two D-M Airmen earn ACC media contest awards for 2004

By Stephanie Ritter

355th Wing Public Affairs

Air Combat Command announced two of the first place winners for their 2004 Media Contest are from Davis-Monthan.

The contest honors the best journalism and photojournalism work in the command's base newspapers. The D-M Airmen were recognized for work submitted in two different categories.

Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal, 355th Communications Squadron, won for her submission in the category of Contribution by Contractor/Stringer Photographer for her photograph of Airman 1st Class Chad Wolfe, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Staff Sgt. Russell Wicke, now stationed at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, received a first place ranking in the News Article category. The winning article titled, "Airmen bid effort to keep rubber side down," was featured in the Aug. 6 edition of the Desert Airman.

Winners were chosen by a panel of 15 military and civilian judges with experience in journalism and newspaper operations.

"I'm very honored and humbled to receive this award," Sergeant Wicke said. "The Air Force has no shortage of quality professionals ... there are many great writers who produce great stories. I feel very blessed mine was recognized."

"I believe recognition of this type tells people in



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal

*Airman 1st Class Chad Wolfe from the 355th Civil Engineer Squadron helps guide a camera into a manhole to help troubleshoot a plumbing problem. This photo was submitted for the 2004 Media Contest in the Contribution by Contractor/Stringer Photographer category and won first place for Air Combat Command.*

all career fields that the extra effort, the quality of their work and drive are noticed by those in authority boosting them to continue on that path, and driving others to do the same," Sergeant McNeal said.

Sergeant Wicke said his formula for a winning article begins with a general interest in the subject.

"Although there are many techniques taught in

news writing, I think the best tool to be armed with is a genuine interest in the subject," Sergeant Wicke said. "Only then can you make it interesting to the reader. When I undertake a story like this I usually have two goals: I want the reader to get the perspective I have on it ... so if I'm not interested, how can they be? This requires me to be thorough without leaving any holes. But being thorough can be boring, so I try to punch it up a little to keep material from sounding stale."

"I write many stories so it's hard to bring a sharp public interest with every one," Sergeant Wicke said. "But I focus all my energy and creativity on the ones I think have the most potential. This motorcycle story was perfect because it was a hot topic at the time. I got lucky to be the one to write it."

Sergeant McNeal agrees that passion is an important key to success.

"I think if you truly love something, if you respect it, if you have a passion for it and if (that passion) is nurtured, great things will come of it," Sergeant McNeal said. "The real joy for me is to see my work published throughout the world, telling the story of our Air Force men and women. I love the people and the work they do, the obstacles they face, the hearts they have and the things they achieve. I (enjoy being a) part of their lives for a moment in time to tell their story."

First-place winners will compete in the Air Force Media Contest.

# Fulfilling dreams

## Camp offers Davis-Monthan youth chance to reach for stars

By Stephanie Ritter  
355th Wing Public Affairs

Youth from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base can now apply for the Air Force Space Camp Program.

The camp will be held July 31 through Aug. 5 at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala.

"The attendees go through astronaut training on the multi-axis trainer, take moonwalks in the one-sixth gravity chair, utilize a jet backpack simulator (and more)," said Kathy Sands, 355th Services Squadron teen coordinator. "They also sample space food and learn how to sleep in space."

But, according to Kyle Aucoin, son of Dawn Aucoin, 355th Contracting Squadron, and Bob Aucoin, 355th Medical Group, space camp offers much more.

"I learned teamwork is the key in (the Na-

tional Aeronautics and Space Administration)," Kyle said. "I also learned about NASA's future plans for sending humans to Mars and the moon and what it takes to become an astronaut. But the biggest lesson I learned was that there is no limit on how far you could go in life as an astronaut."

At 14 years, Kyle has attended two space camps, the U.S. Space Camp and Space Camp Turkey.

"My love of space and my dream of joining NASA made me first want to attend space camp," Kyle said. "I thought space camp would be a great way to study a little bit of what the astronauts do and learn more about our galaxy."

Kyle said he would recommend others attend space camp.

"I would tell a friend to go because it is very fun, challenging and very rewarding," Kyle said. "Plus, you get to meet kids your age from all over the country, or sometimes, from all over the world."

His positive experiences are something Kyle shares with his parents.

"It was definitely a positive experience as it is once in a lifetime, in most cases, for a child to experience going to space camp," Ms. Aucoin said. "They learn so much about space and, more importantly, they learn about teamwork. They not only get an education on the different jobs that make up the space program, but they get to perform different tasks from mission scientist to commander."

*Kyle Aucoin, son of Bob Aucoin, 355th Medical Group, and Dawn Aucoin, 355th Contracting Squadron, prepares for a ride in a multi-axis trainer while at space camp.*

"The best part was what Kyle got out of the experience and (his) discovery of all possible fields he (can) go into," Ms. Aucoin said. "It is never too early to consider and plan for future career choices and one of the best ways is to experience different fields of study. Space camp is truly a phenomenal program that encompasses a wide range of experiences."

For the 2005 Air Force Space Camp, participants will be divided into three crews: Mission Control Center, Space Shuttle crew and Space Station crew, where they will learn how the space control and astronauts work together, Ms. Sands said.

The camp will also be divided into two age divisions: Space Academy is for youth ages 12 to 14 years and Advanced Space Academy is for youth ages 15 to 18 years. This program is open to the family members of active-duty military, Air Force retired military, Air Force civilian employees and active Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

Interested youth need to have a minimum 2.8 grade point average and must complete an application packet, which is available at the D-M Youth Center. All applications must include two letters of recommendation, 100 words or less per letter, from two adults other than parents or guardians.

The deadline for submissions is March 18. Interviews will be set up for the week of March 21 through 25. Final selections will be announced by May 13.

"Transportation to Huntsville is the responsibility of the attendees or the installation youth program," Ms. Sands said. "Lodging, meals and activity fees will be covered by Headquarters U.S. Air Force (Family Member Programs)."

For more information, call Ms. Sands at 228-8373.



Courtesy photo

## Final Answer

*How do you help your coworkers stay on task?*



**Staff Sgt.  
Timothy Ventrello**  
355th Mission  
Support Squadron

*"I keep my coworkers on task by leading through example and not asking my coworkers to do anything I would not do."*



**2nd Lt.  
Diliaa Fuertes**  
355th Services  
Squadron

*"I take care of them by maintaining a healthy work environment. This helps to keep them focused on their assigned tasks. People first, mission always and services for all!"*



**Airman  
Rob Kehr**  
355th Communication  
Squadron

*"I use my chain of command to keep my coworkers on task."*



**Airman 1st Class  
Charles Martin**  
355th Equipment  
Maintenance Squadron

*"I call my coworkers out if they are not on task because if they are not doing the right thing, base assets can get damaged."*



**Staff Sgt.  
Robert Halford II**  
355th Logistics  
Readiness Squadron

*"I keep my coworkers on task by working with them, not hiding behind a desk. I keep the atmosphere light with jokes, however, I remind them that we must remain professional at all times."*



**Staff Sgt.  
Jason Turner**  
355th Security  
Forces Squadron

*"I keep my coworkers on task by trying to lead by example."*

**(Editors note:** Next week's Final Answer question is: "What was your worst job when you were younger and why?" If you would like to submit an answer for an upcoming edition of the Final Answer column, or if you would like to give new ideas and suggestions for the Final Answer column, please contact the Desert Airman staff at [desert.airman@dm.af.mil](mailto:desert.airman@dm.af.mil) or Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle at 228-5092.)



# One team one fight

*Every person on base contributes to mission*

**By Lt. Col. Robert Cothron**  
355th Medical Support  
Squadron commander

When I assumed command of the 355th Medical Support Squadron in June 2003, I immediately challenged my squadron to never forget the most important word in our squadron's title: "support."

I tell them whenever they see one of the Desert Lightning Team's aircraft airborne, they play a direct role in that aircraft being launched.

No, they are not out on the ramp turning wrenches or loading bombs, but they ensure the health and well-being of the aircrew, maintainers, weapons loaders and many others who contribute to the mission including family members.

In addition, they also support the mission by making sure the medical group is properly staffed and funded.

They order medical supplies and equipment, perform laboratory and radiological procedures, safely

dispense medication, ensure secure and swift communications, advise patients of their benefits and support the group's personnel issues.

How important is their job? Try to take one or more of those "supports" away and see what happens.

The same can be said for any other organization on the base, from A-10 academics to the youth center and everything in between.

All our fingerprints are on every aircraft.

There is not a function on the base that cannot be directly connected to our ability to get aircraft in the air and successfully complete their respective missions.

That mission cannot be accomplished without each and every member of the Desert Lightning Team doing their job.

The next time you are out on base and hear the sounds of freedom overhead, take pride in knowing your contributions helped make it happen.

## Additional MPOY winners

Congratulations to the following Airmen who were recognized during the Maintenance Professionals of the Year awards banquet. These names were inadvertently omitted from the March 4 edition of the Desert Airman.

### **55th Electronic Combat Group**

#### **2004 Thomas N. Barnes Crew Chief of the Year:**

Senior Airman Vincent Aguon, 41st Aircraft Maintenance Unit;

#### **355th Wing 2004 Maintenance Specialist of the Year**

##### **Airman Category:**

Senior Airman Ryan Alto, 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron;

##### **NCO Category:**

Staff Sgt. Thomas Hamilton, 355th AMXS;

#### **355th Wing 2004 Armament Systems Specialist of the Year**

##### **Airman Category:**

Airman 1st Class David Hsu,  
355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron;

##### **NCO Category:**

Staff Sgt. Gregory Perea, 355th EMS;

#### **355th Wing 2004 Weapons Load Crew of the Year:**

##### **354th AMU Load Crew 7**

Airman 1st Class Ebony Calhoun, 355th AMXS;

Staff Sgt. Kelly Evans, 355th Maintenance Group and

Airman 1st Class Jesse Tyson, 355th AMXS;

#### **355th Wing 2004 Thomas N. Barnes Crew Chief of the Year:**

Staff Sgt. Thomas Puckett, 355th AMXS

### **563rd Rescue Group**

#### **2004 Thomas N. Barnes Crew Chief of the Year:**

Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Gagnon, 563rd Maintenance Squadron.



## Sonoran Spotlight

*(Editor's note: Sonoran Spotlight is a weekly feature of the Desert Airman that profiles a member — officer, enlisted or civilian — of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.)*



Photo by Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy

*This week's Sonoran Spotlight is Staff Sgt. Christina Lapitan of the 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron. Sergeant Lapitan is the NCO in charge of the Commander's Support Staff. According to her assistant first sergeant, Master Sgt. Valerie Kindler, Sergeant*

*Lapitan was nominated for the spotlight by her commander, Lt. Col. Roger Brooks, and her chief enlisted manager, Chief Master Sgt. Cathryn Gamsby, because she, "is one of our most consistent NCOs who also ensures the mission is accomplished."*

*The following are Sergeant Lapitan's responses to a variety of questions.*

**Hobbies, outside activities:** Spending time with my children, being outdoors, watching movies, going to the gym, and most of all, I love to eat.

**Best assignment and why:** My best assignment was Spangdahlem Air Force Base, Germany, for three reasons - I met my husband there, the military personnel flight was a close knit "family" and being stationed in my homeland was more than I could ask for.

**If you were an Air Force recruiter, what would you tell people about the Air Force?** I'd ask them, "what other job let's them travel the world and provides 100 percent tuition?"

**Name someone who inspires you (or that you admire) and why:** I admire one of my previous commanders, retired Lt. Col. John Robinson, because he believed in me and inspired me to continue in the Air Force.

## February Sharp Troops

Congratulations to the following Airmen who were recognized by the Chief's group as outstanding Airmen for February. The Airmen selected project professional appearance, outstanding bearing and exceptional professionalism.

The Davis-Monthan Air Force Base's Sharp Troop award program is intended to recognize outstanding personnel in the enlisted grades of airman basic through technical sergeant. Airmen selected as Sharp Troops are awarded a Chief's Group Coin, certificate and Army and Air Force Exchange Service coupons.

### **55th Rescue Squadron**

Staff Sgt. Christian Corella

### **355th Aircraft**

### **Maintenance Squadron**

Tech. Sgt. Kate Falla

### **355th Communications Squadron**

Airman 1st Class Starlina Brown and

Staff Sgt. Diane Burleson

### **355th Logistics Readiness Squadron**

Staff Sgt. Christa Yazzie

### **355th Maintenance**

### **Operations Squadron**

Staff Sgt. Zabrina Dismuke

### **612th Combat Plans Squadron**

Airman 1st Class Zachary Lee







An F-15E takes off at the 2005 Heritage Flight Conference March 5. The Heritage Flight program was established in 1997 in support of the Air Force's 50th anniversary. It involves today's state-of-the-art fighters flying in close formation with World War II and Korean War vintage fighters such as the P-51 Mustang and the F-86 Sabre.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson

## HFC

Continued from Page 1

allowed participants a chance to see what an airshow pilot experiences first hand.

And while many were getting a view of D-M from the air, others were able to take time to enjoy the view from the ground.

"I ran into several retirees who flew a number of the vintage aircraft years ago," Colonel Fluhr said. Once we got them in front of their old aircraft, they seemed to act like excited 5 year-olds. It was a lot of fun to see their reactions.

One such individual who enjoyed seeing the aircraft was retired Maj. Gen. John Dolny.

"I came out here to see some of the older planes fly," General Dolny said. "I flew P-47 Thunderbolts and P-51 Mustangs in World War II in mostly air-to-ground missions so it is good to come out and see the flying."

During his 35 year career, General Dolny flew about 10,000 hours. He joined the service after Pearl Harbor in March 1942 and received his commission in February 1943.

With this year's Heritage Flight Conference complete, and with the pilots fully certified to fly together during the upcoming airshow season, Davis-Monthan can now gear-up to host the 2005 Aerospace and Arizona Days.

Two HF pilots are currently scheduled to bring their P-51s to the airshow, set for April 2 and 3. D-M's airshow will be open to the public.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Kinsey

An A-10 Thunderbolt II is marshalled in by a member of the A-10 East Coast Demo Team, at the 2005 Heritage Flight March 4.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

Aircraft practice close formations as part of the Heritage Flight Conference.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

A view from inside a P-51 during the 2005 Heritage Flight Conference.

## Searching for D-M's best caption



Courtesy photo

The Desert Lightning community is invited to try their hands at this week's Photo Caption Contest. Those interested in participating should send their humorous and tasteful captions of what they think is happening in the photo (left) to [desert.airman@dm.af.mil](mailto:desert.airman@dm.af.mil). Submissions are due March 18 by noon. Winners are scheduled to be posted in the March 25 edition of the *Desert Airman*.

In addition, the staff of the *Desert Airman* is seeking new and interesting photos of members of the D-M community for possible use in later editions of the Photo Caption Contest. Send all photos to the above e-mail address.

**(Editor's Note:** "The Lighter Side" is a forum for the D-M community to submit original, previously unpublished comics, cartoons, photographs and humorous military stories and quotes. "The Lighter Side" is for entertainment purposes only.)

### Playing games

An Air Force captain and an Army captain were sitting next to each other on an airplane. The Army captain leans over and asks the Air Force captain if he wants to play a fun game. The Air Force captain just wants to sleep, so he politely declines. The Army captain explains that it is a really easy game. He says, "I ask a question and if you don't know the answer, you pay me \$5. Then you ask me a question, and if I don't know the answer, I'll pay you \$5."

Again, the Air Force captain declines so the Army captain says, "Okay, if you don't know the answer, you pay me \$5, and if I don't know the answer, I pay you \$50!"

Now, that gets the Air Force captain's attention, so he agrees to the game. The Army captain asks, "What's the distance from the earth to the moon?" Without saying a word, the Air Force captain hands the Army captain \$5.

Now the Air Force captain asks, "What goes up a hill with three legs and comes down on four?" The Army captain looks at him with a puzzled expression, takes out his notebook computer, looks through all his references and, after about half an hour, wakes the Air Force captain and hands him \$50.

The Air Force captain politely takes the \$50, turns away and tries to return to sleep. The Army captain, a little miffed, asks, "Well, what's the answer to the question?" Without a word, the Air Force captain reaches into his wallet, hands \$5 to the Army captain, turns away and returns to sleep.









(Above) Bryan Wild, grandson of Bearnice and retired Lt. Col. Norman Hu (left) and Daniel Kim, both Dang Soo Do students, demonstrate center crop for the black belt judges.



(Right) Joel Milner, son of Yong and retired Master Sgt. Carl Milner, demonstrates his Dang Soo Do skills for the black belt judges.

## Dependents test for black belt

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore  
355th Wing Public Affairs

Sweat poured off three DM-AFB Dang Soo Do martial arts students as they completed the first black belt test in the school's history March 6.

Bryan Wild, grandson of Bearnice and retired Lt. Col. Norman Hu, Joel Milner, son of Yong and retired Master Sgt. Carl Milner, and Jordan Parker, grandson of retired Master Sgt. Richard Blystone, all participated in the test.

Bryan, age 14, has studied Dang Soo Do for five years. Joel, age 17, has studied Dang Soo Do for three and a half years, and Jordan, age 9, has studied Dang Soo Do for four years.

The school's first black belt test was presided over by a grandmaster and five masters who brought more than 200 years of combined Dang Soo Do experience to the event. These guests included Master Jino Kim, founder of the Continental Tang Soo Do Federation, which the DM-AFB Dang Soo Do School falls under.

Students testing for black belt in Dang Soo Do are required to know all of the blocking, kicking, punching, one-step sparring, forms, staff and additional techniques they have learned from their first day of training.

Since years worth of dedication and training go into preparing each student for black belt, students recognize they could not have come this far on their own.

"My grandparents and my parents have kept me driven to accomplish this," Bryan said.

"I would not be here without my instructors and the students who help me out everyday," Joel said.

While working with students for many years, Soon Pumarejo, DM-AFB Dang Soo Do chief instructor, has noticed changes in these students.

"They have become more responsible," she said. "But most importantly, they have gained confidence in themselves. When they gain self-confidence, they are able to sharpen their skills."

Though achieving a black belt takes many years the accomplishment does not mark the end of the journey.

"They are starting all over again," Mrs. Pumarejo said. "Making black belt is like starting at white belt all over again. They can expect to really begin to learn, because black belt is just the beginning. They will be even more challenged and given more responsibility and leadership roles within the school."

Earning a black belt is not a mysterious, unattainable goal, Mrs. Pumarejo said. "It is something anyone can achieve as long as they don't quit. Through not quitting, one day they will look back and say they gained confidence, great self-defense, the ultimate physical shape and strong spirit along the way."

Results for the black belt test will be compiled in approximately a month when belts may be awarded.

For more information about DM-AFB Dang Soo Do, visit [www.jkim.com](http://www.jkim.com) or call 290-9200 or 290-1144.

## Fitness Center Classes

The following list includes classes offered at both fitness centers with class fees if applicable. For more information, call 228-0021.

### Monday

6 to 6:30 a.m. - Stomach Aerobics - Fitness Center  
11 a.m. to noon - Pilates - \$2 - FC  
11 a.m. to noon - Step Aerobics - Haeffner  
Noon to 1 p.m. - Spinning - Haeffner  
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - Haeffner  
5 to 5:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, white and yellow belts) - FC  
6 to 6:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, orange belts and up) - FC  
6 to 7 p.m. - Yoga - \$2 - Haeffner  
7 to 8 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (15 years plus) - FC

### Tuesday

Noon to 1 p.m. - Circuit Training - Haeffner  
Noon to 1 p.m. - Shallow Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool  
5 to 6 p.m. - Spinning (Intense) - \$2 - Haeffner  
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC  
6 to 7 p.m. - Pilates - \$2 - FC  
6 to 7 p.m. - Tae Kwon Do, ages 5 to 17 - \$30 - Haeffner  
6 to 8 p.m. - Self Defense (Kyokushin) - \$25/month - FC

### Wednesday

6 to 6:30 a.m. - Stomach Aerobics - Haeffner  
11 a.m. to noon - Pilates - \$2 - FC  
11 a.m. to noon - Step Aerobics - Haeffner  
Noon to 1 p.m. - Deep Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool  
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - Haeffner  
5 to 5:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, orange belts and up) - FC  
6 to 6:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8-14 yr olds, white and yellow belts) FC  
6 to 7 p.m. - Yoga - \$2 - Haeffner  
7 to 8 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (Adults) - FC

### Thursday

Noon to 1 p.m. - Circuit Training - Haeffner  
Noon to 1 p.m. - Shallow Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool  
5 to 6 p.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC  
5 to 6 p.m. - Spinning (Intense) - Haeffner  
6 to 7 p.m. - Pilates - \$2 - Haeffner  
6 to 7 p.m. - Tae Kwon Do, ages 5 to 17 - \$30 - Haeffner  
6 to 8 p.m. - Kyokushin - \$25/month - FC

### Friday

6 to 6:30 a.m. - Stomach Aerobics - FC  
11 a.m. to noon - Pilates - \$2 - FC  
11 a.m. to noon - Step Aerobics - Haeffner  
Noon to 1 p.m. - Deep Water Aerobics - \$1.50 or \$25 for 20 classes - Outdoor Recreational Pool  
Noon to 1 p.m. - Spinning - Haeffner  
5 to 5:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8 to 14 yrs, white and yellow belt) - FC  
6 to 6:50 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (8 to 14 yrs, orange belts and up) FC  
7 to 8 p.m. - Dang Soo Do (Adults) - FC

### Saturday

10 to 11 a.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC

### Sunday

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Step Aerobics - \$2 - FC

### Fitness and Sports Center Pool

The indoor pool is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 228-0015.

### Outdoor Recreational Pool

The outdoor pool will be closed until May 1.

## Sports Shorts

### 2005 Air Force Chess Program

The Community Center will hold their 2005 Chess Program Tournament Monday from noon to 6 p.m. The tourney is open to all active-duty Air Force personnel. Winners will compete for the opportunity to enter the Air Force Chess Tournament. Prizes will be awarded for first through third place. Those interested should sign up at the Community Center or call 228-3717.

### Sports, school physicals

Sports and school physicals are being offered at the Davis-Monthan clinic. These physicals are good for the 2005 to 2006 Tucson Unified School District school year. There are a limited number of appointments available Monday through Friday and a few Saturdays available this summer. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call 228-2778.

## Sports Shorts

### AFAF golf tournament

There is an Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign golf tournament March 24. The entry fee is \$30. Those who are interested need to sign up no later than March 22. For more information, send an e-mail to [james.parker2@dm.af.mil](mailto:james.parker2@dm.af.mil).

### Swim club

The 100 and 200-mile swim club program at the Indoor Fitness Pool has expanded for 2005. The pool will be adding 300 and 500-mile clubs to the mileage program. Swimmers in the 200-mile club are enrolled automatically and there is no time limit for the program. T-shirts are awarded to participants who complete each milestone.

### Learn to bowl

The D-M Lanes will start sign ups for the new "Hook Up 2 Bowling" program April 1. The HU2B program is a new player development program designed to make learning the game simpler, fun and affordable. Classes are scheduled to begin June 1. Certified bowling

instructors will teach participants etiquette, terminology and bowling fundamentals. The cost is \$99 for adults and \$69 for those 18 years and younger. The cost includes eight hours instruction and on-the-lanes lessons. There will be a free orientation before each clinic so participants can learn more about the program. They will also receive a free how-to-bowl booklet, tour of the D-M lanes and a chance for participants to interact with other bowlers. Everyone who completes the program will receive a free towel, bowling ball and bag. For more information regarding the program, call 228-3461.

### Outdoor Recreation trips

The following are a variety of trips this spring offered by ODR for the Davis-Monthan community. For more information on any of these events, call ODR at 228-3736.

#### Patagonia Lake Fishing Trip

April 2 there is fishing trip to Patagonia Lake. The cost of \$20 includes transportation, fishing rods and tackle. Fishing licenses are required. Live bait is not included. Participants should bring drinks,

snacks and lunch. Those who are interested need to sign up no later than March 30.

#### Romero Pools Hike

This trip is April 9 and includes a 5.7 mile hike into the Catalina mountains. Once at the pools, hikers can relax and enjoy a dip. The cost of \$15 includes transportation and guide. Participants should dress for the weather, bring plenty of water, food and sunscreen and should sign up by April 6.

#### Moab Rafting

The D-M community can enjoy three days of rafting and camping and learn the fundamentals of rafting including knot tying, basic water rescue, oar work and much more May 12 through 15. The cost of \$375 includes all gear, transportation, food and experienced guides. The deadline to sign up is April 8, but those interested should sign up as soon as possible as space is limited.

#### Cochise Stronghold Hike

Cochise Stronghold is located in Arizona's Dragoon Mountains. This 6-mile hike May 28 will take hikers

through woodland areas. The cost of \$15 includes transportation and a guide. Those interested should sign up no later than May 26.

## Basketball

### Monday/Wednesday under 30

Team	W-L-T
355 AMXS 1	11-2-0
755 AMXS	11-2-0
ANG	9-2-0
CES	8-4-0
563 MXS 1	5-7-0
EMS	5-8-0
41 ECS	2-9-0
755 OSS	2-10-0
ARMY	2-11-0

### Tuesday/Thursday under 30

Team	W-L-T
SFS	11-2-0
LRS	10-4-0
CMS	9-5-0
SVS	7-5-0
DECA	6-5-0
355 OSS	6-5-0
355 AMXS 2	5-7-0
CS	4-8-0
Med Gp	4-9-0
563 MXS 2	0-12-0

*(Editor's Note: Information and scores current as of Wednesday.)*





## Chapel Information

Services and activities offered by the D-M chapel are listed below. For more information on Jewish or Muslim services; Sunday School programs; Vacation Bible School; Bible studies; youth groups; and ministries, call 228-5411.

### Easter Catholic Mass schedule

**March 24:** Holy Thursday Mass at 7 p.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

**March 25:** Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m. Good Friday Service at 7 p.m. Both are at the Desert Dove Chapel.

**March 26:** Easter Vigil Mass is at 7 p.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

**March 27:** Easter Mass is at 7:30 and 10 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

### Easter Protestant Services schedule

**March 24:** Seder Meal and Communion are at 6 p.m. at Hope Chapel

**March 25:** Good Friday Service is at 11:30 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel

**March 27:** Sunrise Services is at 6 a.m. on the lawn in front of the Desert Dove Chapel. Easter Contemporary Service is at 9:45 a.m. at Hope Chapel. Easter Traditional Service is at 11:15 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel and the Easter Gospel/Inspirational Service is at 11:15 a.m. at Hope Chapel.

### Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are being prayed each Friday during Lent in the Desert Dove Sanctuary at 5 p.m. A meatless soup and bread supper follows in the Desert Dove Annex. All are invited to participate in this Lenten devotion.

## Education Services

### Park University scholarship

Park University is now accepting applications for the Military Family Scholarship. Applicants must be a first year student with Park University at the time of application, be a non-military spouse or dependent of an active-duty military member assigned, attached to or residing in the vicinity of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. Applicants with an earned baccalaureate degree are not eligible. The Military Family Scholarship is for the period of one academic year and is good for 15 credit hours or five courses that must directly apply to the recipient's degree completion program. The application submission deadline is April 4. For an application, visit the Park University office in Building 3200, Suite 240. For more information, call 748-8266.

### Pima Community College

Students can still register for Spring II classes at Pima Community College as regular and weekend classes are still available. In addition, the summer schedule is available online at [www.pima.edu](http://www.pima.edu). Registration will begin for summer March 21. For more information, call 206-4866 or visit the PCC office in Building 3200, Room 224.

### Tuition Assistance

Assistance is not authorized for Western Governors University. The WGU is a competency-

based university that does not award degrees based on credit hours. For more information, call Phil King at 228-3812.

### Air Force Virtual Education Center

The AFVEC has officially transferred to the Air Force Portal. This is to make the AFVEC link in the Air Force portal more accessible and intuitive to the students. Benefits of the change are that students will no longer be required to maintain a separate logon to get into their AFVEC account. In addition, students can now access their education record through the Air Force Portal anywhere, anytime.

## Family Support Center

### Hearts Apart Easter egg hunt

Hearts Apart will sponsor an Easter egg hunt March 19 from 10 a.m. to noon at Bama Park. The event allows children to come and meet the Easter Bunny and hunt for some goodie eggs. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras. Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be served but participants must be signed up in the Hearts Apart Program to attend. For more information, or to register no later than Tuesday, call 228-5690.

### Pre-separation counseling

This class will take place at the D-M Family Support Center Tuesday and March 22 from 9 to 10 a.m. This is mandatory for departing military members and will acquaint them with services and agencies available to help transition to the civilian workforce. The class size is limited to 20 attendees and should be scheduled no later than 90 days before separating. To sign up, call 228-5690.

### Time for Tots

The next Time for Tots will be held Wednesday and March 23 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel. Participants can come and meet other parents while the children enjoy activities. For more information, call 228-5690.

### Veteran's Affairs claims assistance

A Veteran's Affairs representative will provide group appointments concerning veterans and disability benefits March 21 at 1 p.m. in Building 3200, Room 243. To sign-up, call 228-5690.

### Right Start Base Orientation

Right Start Base Orientation is designed to welcome all newcomers to Davis-Monthan and the Tucson area. Leadership and base agencies discuss a variety of programs and services available. The next orientation is March 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club. Free childcare is available but must be arranged ahead of time. For more information, call 228-5690.

### Discovery Resource Center

The Davis-Monthan Discovery Resource Center provides active duty military, retirees, Department of Defense civilians, Guard and Reserve members and their families open entry access and customer resources in the area of employment, family life, financial management,

relocation and transition assistance. The walk-in resource center provides computer software programs, hard copy resources and video programs for individually paced and self-directed learning. Books and videos are available to check out and review in the home along with an abundance of free literature and pamphlets. Numerous newspapers, periodicals and current job listings are available for in-house review. For more information, call 228-5690.

## Happenings

### Kindergarten Round-Up Day

Smith Elementary School will hold their Kindergarten Round-Up Day March 29 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for students who will be five years old by Aug. 31. There will be a brief orientation for parents while future students will visit a classroom. Parents should bring immunization records, birth certificate and proof of residence. Parents may stop by the school for registration papers from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call the school office at 584-7300.

### Low fat cooking class

The D-M Health and Wellness Center will host a low-fat cooking class March 31 at 11 a.m. The main course will be turkey chili with mushrooms. For more information, or to sign-up, call 228-2294 or 228-1003.

### Trip to Yellowstone

For those thinking of traveling to Yellowstone National Park this summer, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho has 13 trailers available for active duty, retired military, Department of Defense civilians and dependents to rent. For more information, call (208) 828-6333.

### Artie Shaw Orchestra

The Artie Shaw Orchestra will perform at Rincon/University High School Auditorium March 29 at 7 p.m. Tickets for the event are available at Instrumental Music Center, Beaver's Band Box, Kid's Center or by mail at RUMBA, PO Box 57151, Tucson, AZ 85732. For more information regarding the event, visit [www.rangerband.org](http://www.rangerband.org) or call 322-9797.

## Movies

### Renovations to theater

The D-M Base Theater is currently under construction as part of the overall Primera Vista construction upgrades being conducted at The Mirage Officers' Club and Conference Center. Improvements being made include an expansion of the lobby, new and larger men's and women's restrooms, a new concession area, the addition of an outside arcade, a new sidewalk and more. Construction is expected to be completed in September. During the project, no movies will be shown. However, the theater/auditorium portion will only be closed from May 11 through June 21. Military personnel interested in booking the auditorium for unit or squadron briefings should call the Desert Lightning Community Center at 228-3717.

## Services Activities

Information for the Services Activities section courtesy of Chris Sweeney, 355th Services Squadron. For questions regarding this information, contact Mr. Sweeney at 228-7352.

### Community Center closures

Stormy's Cafe in the Desert Lighting Community Center will be closed Monday through March 18 for renovations. The Community Center will be closed March 18 through 20 for floor and carpet cleaning. For more information, call 228-3717.

### Pet microchips mandatory

There are new requirements on taking pets overseas. New International Standard Organization regulations now require pet microchips for many overseas assignments. To assist D-M personnel in complying with this requirement, the Veterinary Treatment Facility offers microchip implants for your pets.

Pet microchips are about the size of a grain of rice and are placed just under the pet's skin. Each microchip contains information specifically for that pet. The microchips can assist animal shelters or vet clinics find owners if the pet is lost or stolen. The cost of the microchip is \$20, which includes the registration fee to enroll each pet in a National Pet Data Base. The identification number of the microchip is required to be annotated on the rabies and health certificates. Having this procedure done now may help pet owners avoid repeating rabies vaccinations if you receive an overseas assignment. This will

also enable the VTF to move pets through the process more quickly. To schedule an appointment for a microchip, contact the VTF directly at 228-3529.

### Dollar Days Lunch

All club members and their family members are invited to another Air Combat Command Dollar Days lunch Tuesday at The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost for the lunch buffet is \$1.

During ACC Dollar Days events, members are treated to \$1 lunches and family nights quarterly. The ACC Dollar Days events are "all ranks" events. Dollar Days is an ACC supplement program to the Air Force level "Members First" program. With "Members First," club members receive discounts on food purchases and special functions, including holiday buffets and dinners, and on all pro-rated special functions. Members even save 10 percent on all personal functions booked at the club including weddings and birthdays. There is also a special program that provides discounts of 15 to 30 percent at more than 4,000 hotels nationwide. For more information, stop by the club or call 228-3100.

### D-M CDC openings

The Davis-Monthan Child Development Centers have openings for pre-toddlers from ages 1 to 2 years, toddlers from ages 2 to 3 years and preschool children from ages 3 to 5 years. For more information, call 228-6463 or 228-6465.

### Retiree Appreciation Night

March 25, The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club will

host a special Retiree Appreciation Night to honor those who have served. Patrons will have a choice between prime rib, salmon or chicken. The cost for two is \$20.95. Reservations are required. For more information, or to make your reservation, call 228-3100.

### Easter Sunday Brunch

The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club will host a special Easter Brunch March 27. Patrons will be given a variety of breakfast and lunch entrees. The two sittings are at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Cost is \$19.95 for adults, \$8.95 for children ages 6 to 8 years and \$3 for kids 5 years and under. All members receive a \$3 discount plus use of a Services Buck. For more information, or to make your reservation, call 228-3100.

### Youth Easter Egg Hunt

The Desert Lightning Community Center and D-M Youth Center will host a Youth Easter Egg Hunt March 27. The hunt will take place on the patio lawn of The Mirage Officers' Club. The hunt will be at different times depending on the ages of children. The time for children from 3 to 4 years is 9 a.m., for children from 5 to 6 years is 9:30 a.m., for children ages 7 to 9 years is 10 a.m. and for children ages 10 to 12 years is 10:30 a.m. For the hunt, children will be given a card with a design that matches one egg in the yard. There job is to hunt for that one egg. This is not a race or a contest to gather as many eggs as possible. Instead, each child will receive an Easter gift treat bag. For more information regarding this event, call 228-8484.

**PHONE NUMBERS**

Sherry Jones Manager / Caterer 228-3100  
Robert Johnson Chef 228-3100  
MAIN OFFICE: 748-4860 or 228-3301  
BARBER SHOP: 748-8008

**We're open!**  
During renovations at the Mirage, the Poly Bar will be open every Thursday and Friday for your enjoyment!

**The Mirage**  
DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB  
Poly Bar

**PARTY in the Poly Bar!**  
Thursdays & Fridays - Open from 4pm to close.  
Enjoy Social Hour with your friends from 5 to 7pm.  
Social Hour food and Karaoke with Desi every Friday. Members only.

**PHONE NUMBERS**

Sherry Jones Club Manager 228-3100  
Sharon Gibson Admin. Assistant 228-3100  
MAIN OFFICE: 228-3100  
BARBER SHOP: 748-8710  
CABANAS: 747-3234

**Thursday Mug Night!**  
Drink Specials All Night!  
Mug Night - 6-10pm  
Bring your own mug and receive your choice of domestic draft beer or soda (up to 32 oz) for \$1.75!  
Don't have a Mug? Come in and inquire how to get an custom engraved mug!

**Desert Oasis**

**Cabanas**  
HOME OF THE  
BIG SANDWICH

**Cabanas Special every Sunday**  
Two 12" one topping pizzas with two 16oz sodas for \$13.90

**LUNCH SPECIAL**  
from 10:30am-1:30pm  
Cabanas March  
Lunch Time Special  
6" Outrigger #1 Sandwich with Fries or Tossed Salad and Soda \$4.50

**Shockwave WAVE LOUNGE**

**T.G.I.F**

**Mar 11 - T.G.I.F Social Hour** - draft beer & drink specials, free food, Bud Product Taste Testing, 5-7pm. Doors open 3pm  
DJ Insayne Payne spins from 8-11pm!

**Mar 13 - Champagne Brunch**, 10am-1pm  
Enjoy your favorite breakfast/lunch dishes

**Mar 15 - Dollar Days Lunch**, 11am-1pm

**Mar 16 - Wild About Wednesdays!**  
Everyone's welcome! Drink specials & free food 5-7pm

**Mar 17 - Mug Night 6-10pm**  
Doors open 3pm. Drink specials & music all night! Bring your mug and drafts or sodas are just \$1.75 (up to 32oz)  
St Patty's Day Celebration! Special occasion lunch buffet. Nighttime fun in the Shockwave, \$2.50 Killian's drafts

**Specials for members under 21**  
All non-alcoholic beverages are 1/2 price all the time!

**With the club's D-M "Z" Membership Program**, any member under 21 who maintains their D-M membership can receive up to \$300 in credit toward their 21st birthday party at the club!  
Minimum 3-min: \$75, 6-min: \$150, 1-yr plus: \$300 toward your party!  
Ask your club manager today about using your D-M "Z" credits!

**Now through July the Desert Oasis will host the weekday lunch specials while the Officers' Club undergoes renovation**

**\$7.85+ WEEKDAY LUNCH SPECIALS!**  
1100-1300 (members receive a \$2.00 discount) 1100-1300  
\*Soup and Salad Bar included or available separately for \$6.75 (\$4.75 mbrs)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
CLOSED	Chef's Choice	BBQ Buffet	Fishless Feast Station & Meats	Catfish Buffet & Meats